

Response
Serial No. 10/684,446
Attorney Docket No. 031068

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 7 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 5 have each been amended and new claim 7 has been added. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated December 16, 2004.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication in item 6 of the Action that claim 2 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and to include the features of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that new claim 7 corresponds to original claim 2 and therefore is believed to be allowable.

35 U.S.C. §112 First Paragraph Rejection:

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is mostly nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

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This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Specifically, the Examiner takes the position that it is unclear whether the term “shape” in claim 2 is referring to the shape of the display window or to the shape of the waveform in the display window.

In response, the Examiner’s attention is directed to line 9, page 6 through line 22, page 7 of the present specification, which clearly explains that the term “shape” of claim 2 refers to the shape of the display window (region), and not the shape of the waveform in the display window.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph Rejection:

Claim 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Again, the Examiner takes the position that it is unclear whether the term “shape” in claim 2 is referring to the shape of the display window or to the shape of the waveform in the display window.

However, line 9, page 6 through line 22, page 7 of the present specification clearly explains that the term “shape” of claim 2 refers to the shape of the display window (region), and not the shape of the waveform in the display window.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejection:

claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Alexander et al.
(U.S. Patent No. 6,229,536).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Claim 1, as amended, now calls for *a discriminating means which determines a number of mutually different measuring periods for said plurality of measured signals, and a split display means which splits said display region into said number of mutually-different measuring periods based on the result of determination by said discriminating means and displays a waveform measured in one of the mutually-different measuring periods or a plurality of waveforms, each measured in the same measuring period composing one of the mutually-different measuring periods, in each of split display regions.*

According to the applied reference of Alexander:

The section window determinator 202 determines the selection window boundaries based upon the parameters 250 as described above. In the illustrative embodiment, the determinator 202 receives main and magnified display parameters 250 from the waveform analyzer 138 and uses these parameters to determine the selection window boundaries 252 defining the borders of the selection window 340 in terms of their pixel locations on the display 300 for subsequent rendering by the rendering controller 204. The determinator 202 also provides the operator with the ability to graphically manipulate the selection window 340 to encompass any desired region of the main waveform display 326.¹

However, in Alexander, while the determinator 202 uses the user set parameters 250 to set up the main waveform display 326 and the magnified waveform display 336, the determinator 202 fails to determine a number of mutually different measuring periods for a plurality of measured signals.

¹ Please see, lines 53-64, col. 17 of Alexander.

For example, as discussed on page 6 of the present specification, if waveform data measured by measuring part 10 in measuring period Δt_1 , by measuring part 11 in measuring period Δt_2 , by measuring part 12 in measuring period Δt_3 , and by measuring part 1n in measuring period Δt_4 , are to be displayed, discriminating means 31 determines the number of mutually-different measuring periods as 4. Next, split display means 32 splits the display region of a display screen into 4 and displays the waveform data for measuring periods Δt_1 to Δt_4 in each split display region separately. In this case, split display means 32 splits the display region based on the shape of the display region and the results of discrimination into split display regions of the same size.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Alexander fails to disclose or fairly suggest the features now set forth in claim 1, as amended, concerning *a discriminating means which determines a number of mutually different measuring periods for said plurality of measured signals, and a split display means which splits said display region into said number of mutually-different measuring periods based on the result of determination by said discriminating means and displays a waveform measured in one of the mutually-different measuring periods or a plurality of waveforms, each measured in the same measuring period composing one of the mutually-different measuring periods, in each of split display regions*.

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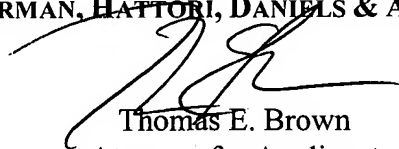
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicant submits that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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